

# WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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## TRUTH IS INVINCIBLE.

The truth cannot be imprisoned by,  
No bars of steel or walls of stone,  
However strong or high,  
Can curb its heaven-born spirit free,  
Or 'neath oppression's heel, decree,  
That it must pine and die.

The truth cannot be imprisoned by,  
No dungeon dark can hide its form  
Or quench its glowing light,  
Its age is from eternity;  
Though seeming caged it still is free,  
It knows no gloom or night.

The truth cannot be imprisoned by,  
Though men who bear its banner high  
May pine in dungeons dark,  
Truth still will soar to liberty;  
Though bruised it cannot stifled be,  
Or lose its vital spark.

The truth cannot be imprisoned by,  
No bonds or chains its form can hold;  
Though hordes of evil men arise  
To still its voice or blight its name,  
It still will glow, a heavenly flame;  
Though crushed again will rise.

The truth cannot be imprisoned by,  
With mortals though it dwell,  
It cannot pine or die,  
It is the soul of liberty,  
It is the spirit of the free,  
Its source and home on high.

The truth cannot be imprisoned by,  
But will forever soar and sing,  
And cleave the azure sky;  
Its pinions gleam with heavenly light,  
In challenge of the dungeon's night,  
And envy's putrid lie.

—Appeal to Reason.

## The Passing Show.

CONDUCTED BY OTUS.

W. RYAN writes from Brisbane (12.2.12):  
"Each lovely scab work is being done here.  
Some of the farmers' sons are sworn in as  
special mounted police. Guns were fired  
this morning as a warning to the strikers  
not to touch what belongs to them. . . . If  
the S.F.A. could afford to send speakers up  
this way, they would do great work. Up  
Rockhampton way I was surprised at the  
number of men who are opposed to the Fed-  
eral Labor Party."

A petition to the N.S.W. Government,  
asking for the release of Messrs. Scully,  
Hayes, Williams, Young, and Hatton, who  
were sentenced to terms of imprisonment in  
connection with the Lithgow dispute, is be-  
ing extensively signed by unionists in  
N.S.W. This paper protests against the  
necessity of a petition to a Labor Govern-  
ment to release men jailed for the incidents  
of an industrial dispute.—C.L.U. Organizer.

Said the McGowen Government is closely  
considering the question of increasing the  
rates of pay for the police force generally;  
but when the Botany laborers wanted in-  
creased pay from the same Government,  
they had to strike for it, and then only got  
a fraction of what they wanted.

A man shall be known by the company  
he keeps. A colonial magnate, who was re-  
cently junketing with George and the other  
thieves at Delhi, was arrested on a charge of  
theft as soon as he reached home.

This from Tuross, Monaro: "Please find  
enclosed the sum of 8d in stamps for one  
dozen copies of THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL-  
IST, as I wish to distribute them among my  
friends. The articles therein are well writ-  
ten and very enlightening. Such things  
should be more generally known. I think  
a good deal of the paper, and will try and  
get subscribers from this part. Most people  
through these places are strongly anti-social-  
istic, and this is so only because they are  
entirely ignorant of Socialist principles."

Last week, Sydney Worker had big posters  
on the hoardings, proclaiming "The Truth  
about the Strike." It is necessary to ex-  
plain that this did not refer to the strike of  
Worker employees, who had to down tools  
before they could get the same rates of pay  
as other profit-making offices were giving.

Wellington (N.Z.) tramway men went  
out on strike, and held up the city, and won  
their demands. Still, it was very wrong of  
them to strike. They injured the employ-  
ers' interests.



BLACK FRIDAY—Brisbane, February 2, 1911.

A circular issued to members of the Fed-  
erated Seamen's Union by the Executive  
has fallen into our hands. It furnishes  
some further revelations concerning the  
Kooibana scabbery (by order of the Exe-  
cutive). It shows that the men who prac-  
tically agreed to find scab firemen for the  
Kooibana were LABOR-SENATOR  
GUTHRIE (pres.), A. H. Gibson (vice-  
president), and Arthur Cooper (sec.). The  
following is the concluding portion of this  
remarkable circular, dated Dec. 9, 1911:  
"The Executive on the report of Messrs.  
Gibson and Riley regarding the steamship  
'Kooibana' trouble has suspended [Thomp-  
son and Morrison, who led the strike] for six  
months from this day, 13th of December,  
1911, and also placed a pecuniary liability  
[£5 each] upon them in consequence of the  
expense they incurred upon the Executive.  
It is also to be noted that those members  
who aided and abetted Thompson and Mor-  
rison are also liable, and they can be and  
may be yet dealt with, holding as we now do  
an assurance from the Australasian Steamship  
Owners' Federation, that they will not employ  
men who have broken faith with the Union.  
Members must be considerate, and either  
agree to abide loyally by the decisions of  
their elected officers or get out of the Union,  
because there is no room in any well-con-  
ducted union for men who take individual  
action." So, in the future, if seamen re-  
fuse to do scab work when a scab Executive  
of three orders them to do it, they must  
"get out of the union." We rather guess  
that a union that can stand scabbery by or-  
der (and by arrangement with the employ-  
ers) is a rattling good concern to get out of.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST bundle meth-  
od of doing propaganda is catching on.  
From various centres the orders are coming  
in. If you want to do good work for Social-  
ism, send 8d in stamps for one dozen copies  
of the paper, and distribute them as sample  
copies.

When Mr. Niel Nielsen resigned the por-  
tfolio of Minister of Lands in the N.S.W.  
Labor Government, most people thought it  
was the act of a man who was standing  
firmly and uncompromisingly and uncondi-  
tionally for principle. But this was not so.  
Mr. Nielsen's withdrawal was a strategic  
move to save votes—the votes of the smaller  
land-owners that it was feared would be lost  
as a result of the Minister's determination  
to partially give effect to the shandygaff  
Lands policy of the P.L.L. Conference.  
We understand that what has transpired  
since supplies the details of the conditions  
under which Mr. Nielsen was persuaded to  
resign. A long, fat, useless (to the work-  
ers, but not to the exploiters) holiday trip  
to America, paid for out of State funds; and  
a fine large fat billet under the Federal Gov-  
ernment (the statutory salary of £650 be-  
ing obligingly increased to £800 by Andy  
Fisher and Co.). Of course, the common  
working men who are to slave in the North-  
ern Territory under Niel's orders won't get  
£800 a year. They'll get what would be  
about the equivalent of 7s 6d a day in  
N.S.W.

F.J.R. writes: Jim Dale (of the South  
Australian U.L.U.) is dead. He died on  
Sunday, Feb. 11th. He was one of the  
small band of men whom the spirit of the  
Social Revolution called out from amongst  
the thousands of workers in this land to first  
voice the new hope of the working class.  
Now-a-days, when a noble spirit bids us  
farewell, there are no words available to ex-  
press our loss, the currency of which has not  
been debased upon the tombstones of knaves.  
It has become customary, therefore, to be  
silent of praise and endearment when we  
have much to express. Dale was one of  
those men of whom we seldom meet more  
than one in a life-time; in nowise a saint,  
he was, nevertheless, beloved wholeheartedly  
of his friends—a merit that saints have sel-  
dom or never attained.

Speaking at Adelaide, the N.S.W. Attor-  
ney-General, in an endeavor to win bour-  
geois votes for the bourgeois Labor Party,  
declared that the Revolutionary Socialist  
element had disappeared from the trades  
unions, and added that in N.S.W. now one  
never heard talk of strike.

Mr. Holman was, of course, out to show  
that the N.S.W. workers are quite satisfied  
with the way things are going under the  
Labor Party's middle-class rule. How ut-  
terly false and misleading his statements  
were a reference to the strike records will  
show. In N.S.W. (governed by Mr. Hol-  
man and his party), on the very day on  
which he spoke:

Lithgow ironworkers were still on strike,  
Pelaw Main clippers were on strike.

Abermain miners were on strike.

Broken Hill hotel employees had given a  
week's notice of their intention to strike.

Sydney wharf-laborers on Newcastle and  
Hunter River Co.'s wharf were on strike.

United Laborers were on strike at Botany  
against the very Government of which Mr.  
Holman is a member.

Rabbit-trappers in several parts of N.S.W.  
were on strike.

The big Queensland strike was on, strikes  
were proceeding in every other State, and—  
as if to further proclaim the value of Mr.  
Holman's assurances—he had scarcely got  
back to Sydney, when a strike occurred  
right where the Labor Party lives—at Syd-  
ney Worker office.

F. G. Johnstone (formerly in Sydney)  
writes: "Have got to Brisbane at last. Held  
some meetings on the way through, one at  
Armidale, where I met an I.W.W. comrade  
from U.S.A., and we went through together.  
We had bad luck at Deepwater on Christmas  
Day. We went into the town, and when we  
returned our home was completely burnt to  
the ground. All our clothing and our  
blankets were destroyed. There were bush  
fires all round us. . . . We were only in  
Brisbane two days when the strike broke  
out, and we got right in on the trouble. I  
spoke twice from the Labor Party's stump,  
and took the crowd by storm; but the La-  
bor Council reckoned I was too hot, and  
barred me. Last week I sold five dozen  
copies of THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST, and  
next week I want 10 dozen. . . . One night  
my mate, McDonald, was locked up and  
searched, but was released at once. We ap-  
plied for a permit for a meeting, but were  
refused. We told them straight that we  
would insist on freedom of speech, and we  
held our meeting that night without any  
permit."

The "martial display" in Brisbane on  
Tuesday of last week was a deliberate at-  
tempt on the part of a criminal gang to pro-  
voke bloodshed. The manslaughterers were  
dressed in khaki.

N.Z. Voice of Labor, edited by Professor  
Mills, now follows the capitalist papers'  
methods, and calls the Socialists "Red-rag-  
gers."

Among the copies of THE INTERNATIONAL  
SOCIALIST paid for by Comrade W. Layley,  
was one sent to one Fred. J. Bowden, of  
Moonee Vale, Brunswick, Vic. Mr. Bow-  
den writes to the manager to say that he  
doesn't want the paper; that he reckons we  
are "doing splendid work for the Employ-  
ers' Federation and Capitalism" when we  
attack the Labor Party; that "Fisher,  
Hughes, Pearce and Co. have done noble  
work," etc., and that "to shriek 'Workers,  
Unite!' and then throw bombs among them  
(loaded or otherwise) as soon as they begin  
to do so, is a bit too erratic," and Mr. Bow-  
den finally asks: "Why slate Arthur Grif-  
fith with an offence before he commits it?"

Mr. Bowden is one of the few people who  
still cling to the delusion that the Fisher  
concern is a Labor Party. His assertion  
that the Socialists, in attacking the Labor  
Party for its capitalist attitude, is doing the  
work of Capitalism, is as old as Billy Hughes  
and nearly funny enough to make King  
O'Malley laugh. When he wrote of the  
noble work of Fisher, Hughes, Pearce and  
Co., he probably hadn't heard of the noble  
work of Fisher and Hughes in wrecking the  
coal strike; the noble work of McGowen and  
Co., in fining and jailing the Lithgow  
strikers; and the noble work of Pearce and  
Co. in sending young Polanski, of Mel-  
bourne, to jail; the jailing of Sydney lads,  
and quite a lot of other noble deeds that the  
Labor Party has to its credit.



## The International Socialist

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through this paragraph indicates that YOUR SUBSCRIPTION WILL EXPIRE WITH NEXT ISSUE.

### A Red Mark

indicates that your Subscription must be renewed AT ONCE, if you desire the delivery of the paper to continue.

I am of those that believe the day is near at hand when we shall have one great revolutionary economic organisation of the working class and one great revolutionary political party of the working class.—EUGENE V. DEBS.

## On Class Lines.

BY H. E. HOLLAND.

"To organise along craft lines means to divide the working class and make it the prey of the capitalist class. The working class can only be unionised efficiently along class lines," said Eugene Debs, in his memorable speech at New York on Dec. 10, 1905, when the I.W.W. was inaugurated.

The reason the Australian working class fails to achieve great successes on the industrial field is because it organises (or, rather, disorganises) along craft lines, and flings its sectional forces a prey to the capitalist class in every conflict.

No better example of this could be furnished than the Brisbane strike provides. A determined, intolerable, tyrannical attack was made on a working-class section (the tramway men). Industrially organised on revolutionary class lines, that attack would have been resented, met, answered, and repulsed by the whole working class of Australia. Organised on craft, sectional lines, what has the answer been?

"There was no 'planning' of a general strike in Queensland. Even craft organisation in that State was more deplorably disorganised than in any other State. The strike was not the work of 'leaders'—it is possible that it occurred in spite of leaders. It was the spontaneous revolt of the working class against injustice to one working-class section. It was the visible evidence of the growing class-consciousness and increasing sense of solidarity of the working class. For that growing class-consciousness the propaganda of the revolutionary Socialists, of THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST and other papers and literature, and the wide circulation especially of Debs's pamphlets on Revolutionary Industrial Unionism, contributed a very great deal—of course, along with the increasing pressure of economic conditions.

The working class of Brisbane and other parts of Queensland—with no scientific industrial organisation—rose magnificently before the aggression of the Capitalists. Had the workers' class fearlessness and their splendid demonstration of class solidarity had the backing of real revolutionary working-class organisation on both the industrial and the political field, the fight would have been over and won long ere this.

As it is, the Brisbane strikers have learnt the extent of working-class power. Unorganised—disorganised—they were able to paralyse the whole of the profit-making operations of the master class. They laid their hands on the brakes, and all the great wheels of the machinery of production were made to cease revolving. All the machinery of distribution they laid idle. Every business place they compelled to put up its shutters. All the roar and the rattle of the city's traffic they silenced. Even the drinking shops they closed. For

a time no business house could make any business transaction except by virtue of a permit from the Strike Committee. For a period the Strike Committee was virtually the Government. No trams could run. The train service was almost cut off. Capitalism was held up on the industrial field. The workers furnished demonstrative evidence of how utterly useless and unnecessary the capitalists are—how absolutely everything depends on whether the workers continue to work or do not continue to work.

But, because the Australian workers are organised industrially on craft lines, and because the politics of the parties supported by the workers truly reflect craft tactics and ideals, the Brisbane revolt could not amount to more than a magnificent display of unorganised class-consciousness and a striking lesson as to what the working class should be capable of if scientifically organised.

Every train that ran from Brisbane was a scab train; yet the unionists of N.S.W., class-unconscious, disorganised on craft lines, and obsessed by bourgeois politics, cheerfully handled all scab freight, all scab mails, all scab passenger traffic. The capitalist newspapers published the most lying reports, the most bitter attacks on the strikers and vilifications of them; yet the unionists of the printing and publishing trades cheerfully set all those lies and scab attacks in type and printed and circulated them!

Sydney Labor Council—union of craft unions—was appealed to directly by the Strike Committee to take a hand in the fight, AND ITS ANSWER WAS A POINT BLANK REFUSAL, and a warning issued to the affiliated unions "not to take any precipitate action to assist the Queensland strikers." In other words, the Sydney Labor Council instructed its affiliated members that they must scab on the Queensland strikers, at the same time offering monetary assistance—it helped the strikers with a little money, and it helped the class that was fighting the strikers by insisting on doing scab work for the employers.

The Strike Committee appealed to the Waterside Workers' Federation, and was turned down by the executive of that body; appealed to the Newcastle wharf laborers, and was turned down; appealed to Melbourne Trades Hall Council, and was turned down; appealed to Adelaide Trades and Labor Council, and was turned down. They were all prepared to help a little with money; they were not prepared to say that they would not scab on the Brisbane men—their lack of class-consciousness would not permit them to refuse to do scab work; their disorganisation, which, after all, is only the inevitable reflection of their lack of class-consciousness, makes scabs of them anyhow.

The Transport Workers' Council, first of all by resolutions regretting the absence of that most eminent wrecker of strikes, W. M. Hughes, resolved that "general strikes are illogical, injure indiscriminately, and wantonly destroy amicable relations," and, "therefore, the joint executive of the transport workers' council, comprising the Sydney branches of the Australasian Institute of Marine Engineers, the Federated Seamen's Union, the Merchant Service Guild of Australasia, the Wharf Laborers' Union, and the Trolley, Draymen and Carters' Union, informs the members of the above organisation that it will be considered and treated as an offence to the organisation concerned if a member of any of the foregoing societies ceases work on, or boycotts, any vessel in N.S.W. waters from sympathy with the Brisbane strike."

This latter resolution—this naked and unashamed declaration in favor of union scabbery—was wired to Labor-member Coyne, chairman of

the Strike Committee, and called forth from that gentleman the pronouncement that "he did not regard it as conceivable that industrial unionists could proclaim themselves the worst form of scabs." In the first place, the guilty parties are not industrial unionists—they are craft unionists. And, after all, the resolution simply expressed what is largely a Hughesian sentiment, and what is undoubtedly the logical end of the Labor Party's attitude towards industrialism and concerning politics; and this view is amply verified when the denunciation of the strikers (including Labor-member Coyne) by various Labor-members is taken into consideration. Labor-member Beeby blames the strikers for the loss of votes to the S.A. Labor Party, and says in effect that the Q. strike is a violation of the Labor Party's Arbitration policy. Labor-member Arthur Griffith denounces the strike as an unjustifiable and imbecile act. King O'Malley endorses Mr. Griffith's sentiments. Labor-member Hughes has never lost an opportunity to attempt the wrecking of a strike; indeed, the strongest printed condemnation of the Q. strikers consisted of the reproduction of Mr. Hughes's opinions under big black headlines. Add the denunciation of certain Sydney strikers by Labor-member Spence, who told the capitalist papers that the strikers were bushrangers, and who subsequently received a telegram signed "Badger," congratulating him on his resistance to union tyranny—and we have a fair idea of all that the Labor Party's attitude towards the militant industrial workers means.

Add to this also the fact that the Federal Labor Government gave the Queensland Government the use of the permanent military officers to drill and instruct in the foul art of murder the scab special police—the employers and sons of employers and all those returned ruffians who wore khaki and killed men and women and children and stole fowls and other goods in South Africa; and the "Labor" Party's absolute repudiation of all that a real working-class party would stand for becomes more and more painfully self-evident.

That the Church should join the capitalists and the daily papers and the craft unions and the Labor politicians in cursing the strikers was only to be expected. The church stands in with the oppressors—the robber class—always and anyhow. But, given (first) class knowledge, and then the inevitable class organisation on both the industrial and the political field that will reflect class knowledge, and neither Capitalism nor church, neither plutocrat nor fake politician nor paid policeman, will be able to influence its methods or jeopardise its conflicts.

I think it is Trautmann (of America) who says, in one of his pamphlets, something like this of industrial organisation: "A labor organisation to correctly represent the working-class must have two things in view. First—It must combine the wage-workers in such a way that it can most successfully fight the battles and protect the interests of the working people of to-day in their struggle for fewer hours, more wages, and better conditions. Secondly—It must offer a final solution of the labor problem—an emancipation from strikes, injunctions, bull-pens, and scabbing of one against the other."

Apart from the Revolutionary Socialist movement, there has really been no recognition of these facts in Australia. There must be recognition of them, otherwise the workers of Australia will have again and again to face the humiliation and the shame and the utter folly, stupidity, and treachery of such actions as those of Sydney Labor Council and other Trades Councils and the utterances and conduct of "Labor" Parties and individual "Labor" men.

There must be full recognition and fearless proclamation of the fact that "the historic mission of the working class is to do away with Capitalism"—that this must be the objective of all working-class organisation. "Not the conservative cry of 'A fair day's work for a fair day's wage,'" says Marx; "but the revolutionary demand of 'Abolition of the wages system.'"

There can be no amicable relations between Capital and Labor. Capital is only a function, and it's a function that Labor has got to destroy. Organisation is the force—the educated, class-conscious force—that will destroy it. ONE BIG REVOLUTIONARY UNION on the industrial field; ONE BIG REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST PARTY on the political field!

So organised, what power could withstand the forces of Labor?

This is the idea the S.F.A. propagates. Therefore, get into the ranks of the S.F.A., and help to do your share.

The union seamen and firemen refused to do scab work on the Cornwall, and were locked down for eight days and had their pay stopped. The "union" engineers and cooks performed the scab work on the coal in the meantime!

Sydney Typos, who number 1800 members, at their adjourned half-yearly meeting, refused by 14 votes to 12 (!!!) to permit a ballot of the membership to be taken to decide whether £100 should be donated to Q. strikers.

## The Royal Australian Navy.

### A Balmain Man's Awful Experience

Hounded Back to Garden Island Torment and Hell on the Psyche by the Labor Party's Police.

BY F. A. HOLLAND.

A CASE that is pregnant with interest for the Australian working class was recently brought under the notice of the Minister for Defence by Mr. R. Howe, M.P.

The following particulars were supplied to the writer by the victim's sister, who lives at Balmain.

On or about the 11th July, 1910, Frank Healey, finding himself without a home and without work, decided that the only course left him to obtain a living was by joining the Royal Australian Navy; and being then a fine, strong-looking specimen of manhood, he was signed on as fireman in the Psyche's stokehold for a term of five years. Economic determinism landed him in the navy.

He soon found that the conditions there were altogether too intolerably like hell, and after enduring it for six days, he deserted. The law was immediately set in motion, and the N.S.W. Labor Party's police were sent out to hunt him down. As an inducement to stimulate the police in their sleuth work, blood money—in the shape of a reward—was held out to the successful officer effecting his capture. Blood money is paid to the police in all such cases.

In order to escape the legal bloodhounds, Healey gathered a few of his belongings together and roamed about the country, picking up an odd job here and there.

During this time his health broken down, and he was continually ill. On one occasion he was picked up on a roadside, stricken with pneumonia.

This kind of life seriously affecting his health and well-being, he worked his way back to Sydney, and found employment at Elliot Bros.' chemical works.

The Labor Government's police soon discovered his whereabouts, and on Nov. 23, 1911, plain-clothes policeman Kennedy called at his place of employment, and arrested him—just 15 months after his desertion from the Psyche.

He was then imprisoned on Garden Island, and for 28 days his daily fare was one pound of bread and one pint of water. When the 28 days were completed, Healey—on top of this unwholesome and weakening diet—was sent back to the Psyche's hell-hole, from which he had tried so hard to escape—sent back to do laborious work in the stoke-hole after a month of starvation and torture at Garden Island!

He is said to be a complete physical and mental wreck. So materially is he changed in appearance that two old friends of his who were engaged on the boat on some repair work utterly failed to recognise him until told who he was.

During his term on Garden Island, his relatives were refused permission to even see him.

He must now serve the balance of the five years unless he is bought out in the meantime or dies—and it is said there is but little chance of his living through that period.

He declares that he would far rather serve ten years in jail than complete the five in the navy.

After deserting, Healey left his naval uniform at the boarding-house at which he stayed, and the police were repeatedly notified that the clothing was there, but refused to take charge of it. Later on, the clothing disappeared, and now, out of his scanty and sweated pay, Healey is being made to pay £5 10s for the lost uniform, and also the amount of the blood money paid to the Labor Party's police for his own capture! A real Labor Party would rather have assisted him to escape.

This is "Labor" rule with a vengeance. Possibly it is the outward and visible sign of the way Senator Pearce administers the Royal Australian Navy "with justice and humanity." Anyway, Healey's awful experience points to some further solid reasons why the Australian youth should keep a long distance away from the Royal Australian Navy.

## Answers to Correspondents.

SOCIUS, Broken Hill.—Next week.

N.W., Cobarr.—Papers forwarded. Thanks. G.D., Lithgow; J.R.W., Melbourne; A.C.E., Ipswich, Q.; R.H., Balmain; H. HAMMOND, Sydney; T.G., Perth; P.H., Vancouver, B.C.; F.A., Sydney; J.W., Seattle, Wash., U.S.A.—Received. Thanks.

C.F.B., Sank Rapids, Minn., U.S.A.—Subscription for America is 2dols. per year.

S.P.G.B., Sydney.—No one takes any serious notice of anything the Australian Azeff writes nowadays. His Azefisms concerning the Broken Hill strike, his treachery re Lithgow, and his general record furnish sufficient answer to his vilifications concerning the Revolutionary Socialists. But, say, next time you write to this office, just sign your own name.

F.N.W., Lampasas, Tex., U.S.A.—Subscription to this paper for the United States is 2 dols. per copy per year. Postage is 1d. per copy (4s 4d per year); there are no bulk rates, and for this reason we are unable to supply American readers at club rates.

F.C., Sydney.—Next week, if possible.

A.S., Lithgow; C.W.G., Broken Hill; A.C., Mt. Lyell.—Subs. received. Thanks.



## Bushrangers in Sydney

### "Worker" Management "Stuck Up"

Stubborn Resistance by Mr. Spence, M.P., and Mr. Lamond.

BY W.R.W.

THERE was terrific excitement in the city on Tuesday, Feb. 13, when the evening papers announced that a "lot of bushrangers" had rushed the *Worker* office, and, "without warning," had "held a loaded revolver" to the heads of the management.

Picture show photographers were on the point of hurrying to the scene of the outrage, hoping to secure some sensational films; householders were discussing the price of locks, bars, and bolts, intending to double-lock their doors before they retired to rest o' nights; the Inspector-General of Police was believed to be busy arming his men with bayonets and ball-cartridge and advising them to be firm in the dreadful time when they should be called upon to battle for law-'n-order in their country's hour of need. In short, the authorities were on the verge of panic, and the police and special constables were on the point of being ordered to bludgeon any old men and women found in the streets, when the whole cause of alarm was traced to some exaggerated and figurative utterances of the employing class at the *Worker* office.

In order to thoroughly understand the matter, it is necessary to remember that the *Worker* is the organ of the great A.W.U., and is quite revolutionary in its utterances when dealing with Capitalism and its oppression of the workers; and that in times of strikes or industrial trouble, its sympathies (?) have always been with the working class and never with its enemy, the plutocracy.

Naturally, when the notorious Badger provoked the trouble in Brisbane, the *Worker* management sent a "special" up north to write up the brutal tactics of the tramway management and the savage charges of bloody police hirelings upon unarmed and defenceless citizens.

The "Worker" special did his work handsomely, and depicted in vigorous language the awful doings of Black Friday, and the workers who read his account in the "Worker" were shocked, but delighted at the attitude of the paper on the strike. "Thank goodness," they said, "we have one straight-out Labor paper to champion our cause during a strike."

But while the "Worker" was so valiantly battling, and enjoying the bating of Badger up north, the demon of discontent was busy demonstrating that though a strike is a justifiable expedient in the camp of the other fellow, it is blasphemy, treason, and bush-ranging when it comes near the "Worker" office.

The "Worker" prides itself on being a sound unionist organ, and always puts a union label on anything it prints as a guarantee that it is a genuine product of trades union labor, but in spite of such outward manifestations of well-doing, within the charmed circle wherein its employees were supposed to be so happily situated, there has been serious talk of callous sweating and seething discontent.

All the literary staff are members of the Writers' and Artists' Union, and also hold membership tickets in the Australian Workers' Union, which owns and controls the paper. Mr. Spence, M.P., is president of the A.W.U., and Mr. Lamond is a member of the executive, and the manager of the "Worker."

A fortnight before the trouble developed, a letter was sent by the literary staff to the management asking for the payment of union rates. The staff received no reply—not even the courtesy of an acknowledgment. Then the staff held a meeting, and deputed one of their number to interview Mr. Hector Lamond. His reply was a request for the individual salaries they demanded. This was declined, and finally a joint statement was prepared and submitted to him. When Hector saw that statement he declared their demands to be "impossible and extravagant"; yet they were merely the rates paid literary workers in capitalistic offices.

In the meantime three men received notice that their services would be required no longer, which helped to bring matters to a head, as the men recognised in this the old time-honored practice of the "weeding-out" of objectionable elements.

The staff finally received a letter from Mr. Lamond in answer to their joint statement, informing them that he could not consider their demands, and that these were impossible. In consequence of that reply, a deputation waited on the A.W.U. conference, who are the staff's employers, but at the instance of Mr. Spence, M.P., the conference decided not to hear them. The staff then delivered a strike ultimatum which Mr. Spence, M.P., described as a "loaded revolver" held to the heads of the management of the "Worker."

Mr. Spence enjoys the distinction of being president of the A.W.U., a Labor member of the Federal Parliament, author of a "History of the A.W.U.," and "Australia's Awakening" (the latter being "thirty years

in the life of an Australian agitator"), and father-in-law of Mr. Hector Lamond.

He has thus had a long and profitable career as an Australian agitator, and during all that time has had many a lively battle with the plutocracy; but now, in the evening of his days, the iron has entered his soul, and he has been driven by the literary "bushrangers" of the "Worker" to say that they "made him feel" that "it is no wonder that employers complain sometimes about the coercive tactics of employees."

Mr. Hector Lamond has also, like his father-in-law, had a distinguished career as a Labor agitator. Mr. Spence built up the A.W.U.; the A.W.U. started the "Worker"; and Mr. Lamond (after fighting the Labor Party on the political field, and helping to lose them the Cowra seat, as Mr. Hughes has said) climbed into the editor-manager's chair, where he has displayed much "business ability" in keeping expenses (including literary wages) down and sendings profits up. He has been president of the Political Labor League, and is on the Executive of the A.W.U. The A.W.U. and P.L.L., between them, make up quite a Spence-Lamond family affair—the "Worker" fighting for the Labor member, and the Labor member fighting for the "Worker" management at conferences against the literary "bushrangers" on its staff.

An old proverb says that "accidents will happen in the best-regulated families," and the A.W.U. and "Worker" management appear to be no exception. The publication of "Worker" balance sheets, showing immense profits from the labors of the staff, the payment of princely salaries to bosses at the top, and sweating wages to the "fourth estate" below, has opened the eyes of thousands of workers and made them wonder why the "Worker" manager should say that the writers' demands are "impossible and extravagant," and why father Spence (Labor M.P.) should say that he "feels that it is no wonder that employers complain sometimes about the coercive tactics of employees."

Father Spence's sympathy for the employers was gratefully reciprocated by a party who sent him a telegram from Brisbane, signed "Badger," congratulating him on the firm and manly stand he and the "Worker" management had adopted against the tyrannical demands of the unionists.

The "Worker" management should appreciate the sympathy of "Badger," should withdraw its "special" from Brisbane, and cease its attacks forever on the enemies of Labor and unionism.

### "After Life's Fittful Fever."

BY DAN O'SHEA.

On Tuesday, January 23, Mrs. L. Moodie died in the Melbourne Homoeopathic Hospital, after an illness of 15 days. She was 55 years of age. I first knew her 22 years ago; she was then teaching dancing in a private house in the evenings, and doing needlework in the day-time, to support herself and two young children.

In the midst of her own fierce struggle she was always ready to assist where others were threatened with poverty. All who were in trouble came to her; and, where women were left widowed, she often taught them needlework to enable them to get a living.

In the days prior to the Factories Act, when outdoor sweating was far more rife than it is now, she gave evidence before a Royal Commission. "People get work out from the factories in such large quantities," she told the Commission, "that they are able to make as much as £10 a week out of the sweat and blood of those who are not able to help themselves."

There were fat members of the House of Lords on that Commission, and they were shocked, of course, at this statement.

"Can you prove that assertion?" they asked. She just smiled, and said: "Oh, yes."

"Can you state one case?"

"Yes; one of those sweaters is my own brother. That was eleven years ago, but the brother and sister never spoke to one another again."

Mrs. Moodie once took part in a big anti-sweating meeting in Melbourne Town Hall, and there were men waiting outside to do her violence for her exposures of their brutality. She was taken out the back way by the police to save her from their vengeance.

She might easily have piled up wealth as a sweater of other women and children; she chose the hard, rough way of the wage-working woman instead.

Until five years ago she took an active part in the Labor Party movement, and was a member of the Eight Hours Committee, Trades Hall Council, and Tailors' Union.

She was repeatedly offered jobs as forewoman by big clothing firms—her reputation as a first-class worker was well known—but, having fought sweating in the home, and knowing that speeding-up (that worst form of sweating) was rife in all factories, she turned down every offer. Bossing wasn't in her line.

She was offered a good position in the State Clothing Factory, but she wouldn't take it on for the same reason.

When I organised the Holland Benefit Social at Fitzroy, after the Albany trials, she gave me splendid assistance—indeed, her work was a huge factor in making that function such a magnificent success.

She has passed away. She played her part in life's grim struggle and in the class war, and played it well; and we who remain, and to whom she is no longer an inspiring memory, hasten to lay a tribute of admiration and affection on her grave.

Godfrey McGuire, who was one of the victims of the mining disaster at Wyalong, was a brother of comrade T. McGuire, of Sydney. Godfrey McGuire was one of the most popular men in the local working-class ranks. He leaves a widow and four young children—the eldest 12 years of age and the youngest about 18 months.

## Balmain Free Speech Fight!

WITHOUT free speech no search for truth is possible. Without free speech no discovery of truth is useful. Without free speech progress is checked and the nations no longer march forward toward the nobler life which the future holds for man. Better a thousandfold abuse of free speech than denial of free speech. The abuse dies in a day, but the denial slays the life of the people and entombs the hope of the race.—CHARLES BRADLAUGH.

THE second stage in the Balmain fight was reached on Thursday of last week, when the police delivered a document worded as follows:

SUMMONS.

To John William Roche, of Sydney, in the State of New South Wales.

Whereas information has this day been laid before the undersigned, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said State of New South Wales, for that you did on the 11th day of February instant, in Rowntree-street, a public street within the municipality of Balmain, and within the Metropolitan Police District in the said State, loiter on the roadway to the inconvenience of passers-by, and did not discontinue so to do when requested by a police officer, contrary to the ordinance made under the Local Government Act 1906, in that case made and provided. These are, therefore, to command you, in His Majesty's name, to be and appear, on Wednesday, the twenty-first day of February instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, at the police office, Darling street, Balmain, in the said State, before such stipendiary Magistrate for the Metropolitan Police District, in the said State as may be there, to answer the said information, and to be further dealt with according to law.

Given under my hand and seal this 12th day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eleven, at Balmain, in the said State.

GEO. M. MARSH, J.P.

As we go to press on Tuesday evening of each week, the paper will be printed before the above case is decided.

Our Balmain members have been unable to find any one named A. P. Montgomery in Rowntree-street. It will be remembered that the letter of complaint passed on by the Council to the police was signed "A. P. Montgomery, Rowntree-street."

Last Sunday night Fred. Riley spoke to a splendid audience. The police were present, but made no attempt to interfere with the meeting, contenting themselves with keeping the roadway clear. Sloan and Denford spoke after Riley. The papers sold out, and many who wanted copies could not be supplied.

During the evening a motor car, No. 13, was driven through the meeting three times at a speed of anything from 12 to 15 miles an hour, and with an utter disregard for the danger thereby occasioned to human life.

The speaker for this Sunday evening is H. E. Holland.

### Senator Pearce and Garden Island.

IN December last we printed an article on the "Garden Island Horror," exposing the brutal conditions that exist in that torture chamber. Attention was called to the article by Mr. Robert Howe, member for Dalley, in the House of Representatives, and Senator Pearce has now sent the following reply to Mr. Howe:

With regard to your reference to the general question of Garden Island, I might point out that that depot is not under the control of this Department. The writer of the article appearing in THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST of 9th December, 1911, to which attention has been drawn, displays such bitterness, and the statements contained therein are so misleading and inaccurate in many respects, that it is not, in my opinion, deserving of consideration.

I would add, however, that as far as the Royal Australian Navy is concerned, it is intended that it shall be administered with justice and humanity.

Yours faithfully,  
G. F. PEARCE.

Space limiters debar us from dealing with the Minister's reply in this issue, but we shall have a few words to say to Mr. Pearce anon the matter in a future issue.

The conclusion of W.R.W.'s interesting article on John Brown will appear in our next issue.

Special-constable McLaren (recently employed by the Q. Government to do scab work against the strikers) may play in the test match at Sydney this week. He will, of course, get a "bonzer" reception.

The "Transport Workers' Council," which hadn't met for four years, was only called together for a scab purpose. It's a bit too late for the Wharf-laborers' officials to deny responsibility in connection therewith. Why wasn't that denial made the day following the publication of the black-leg resolution?

Sydney *Sunday Times*, which was so exceedingly bitter against the Brisbane strikers, got a dose of the strike pill on the Sunday before last, when its publishing staff became tired of waiting for compliance with a demand made two months earlier. On that Sunday there was no *Times*, and next day the strikers won through. This strike was an object lesson as to the power of the workers, when exercised suddenly and with determination.

#### Maintenance Fund.

Perth Socialist Party, £1 10s; Kerr, 1s. Total for week, £1 11s.

#### Press Fund.

Already acknowledged, £130 10s. Collected at Club Social, 11s. Total, £140 7s.

#### Party Premises Fund.

Already acknowledged, £18 6s 8d. B.B. 2s; A. Armitage, 1s; W. Scott, 6d; N. White, 8s 6d. Total, £18 18s 11d.

## S.F.A. News & Notes.

### National Executive.

A MEETING of the Ad. Council was held on Feb. 12, when formal business only was transacted.

Present: Rutherford and Winspear (Sydney), Slade (Newtown), Sloan and McKerralie (Balmain), and Holland, gen. sec.

The Council met again on Feb. 19, when there were present: Slade and Walsh (Newtown), Rutherford and Winspear (Sydney), McKerralie (Balmain), and Holland, gen. sec.

Correspondence was received from Edward Hartley (New Zealand), re organising in Australia; from Broken Hill Branch, notifying election of officers; and from C. Cesare.

Resolved that Hartley's letter be referred to Conference.

Other formal business was transacted, and Council adjourned till Feb. 26.

### Balmain.

Good meeting at Rozelle on Saturday. Speakers were M. Moore, Grant, and Talbot. Sunday's meeting had Riley, Sloan and Denford for speakers. Demand for papers far exceeded the supply.

### Port Pirie.

A telegram from Port Pirie on Monday announced that comrade Cesare was about to undergo a serious operation for appendicitis. Every Socialist will sincerely hope for a successful result.

### Broken Hill.

The annual election of officers resulted as follows:—Secretary, H. Sturrock; Librarian, R. Beezley; Literature Committee: B. Mohr, M. P. Considine; Auditors, B. Kendall, W. J. Travis; National Executive Members, J. J. O'Reilly, H. Sturrock; Correspondent Socialist Press, J. J. O'Reilly; General Committee, Maxwell, O'Reilly, Lamb, Smith, Wetherall; Trustees, C. Carrack, R. Beezley.

The last two Sunday evenings R. A. Sayce, on "Quakerism, a Reasonable Faith," and W. Saunders on "Phonetic Spelling," occupied the party platform. Both lectures were well attended, questions were asked, and discussions followed.

Next Sunday evening, B. Kendall will give a resume of Marx's "Capital," Vol. I., and following that C. W. Green will lecture on "Joan of Arc."

Literature sales good.

All the Reds here regret to learn of the death of the well-known fighter and secretary of the U.L.U., Jim Dale.

The Rev. Hugh Swindley is putting in good work for the One Big Union movement at Amberumberka, and with the assistance of other Socialist comrades he is working up a good circulation for the Socialist press.

E. V. Cogan, an old and staunch Red, is leaving the Hill this week on account of a breakdown in his health. All comrades regret his leaving. Vic. was connected with all the fights and struggles of the Party here, and always looked on the bright side of the fight.—J. J. O'REILLY (12.2.12.)

### Sydney.

At the Domain on Sunday good work was put in by the several speakers, the Balmain free speech fight serving as a fulcrum topic. Rutherford moved and Grant seconded: "That this meeting of Socialists and workers condemns the action of the Balmain Municipal Council, in empowering the police to prosecute Socialist speakers for conducting street meetings, while religious bodies are not interfered with, such action being against the principle of free speech." The motion was carried with one dissentient.

Market-street also was the scene of a splendid meeting, while the other propaganda gatherings were successful.

### Leichhardt-Annandale.

The first propaganda meeting was held on Saturday night, when there was a good attendance. Comrade Young was in the chair, and Knight and Slade spoke. There was some interruption from drunks, and not a little from P.L.L.-ers, who were apparently alarmed at the local Socialists getting to work, and they worked off some of their apprehension by calling for cheers for the bourgeois local member, Carmichael. There was a good sale of papers. This Saturday the speakers will be Young, Knight, Rutherford, and Holland.

### Sydney Propaganda Fixtures.

SATURDAY.

Rozelle—James, Renwick-street, Leichhardt—Young, Knight, Holland, Rutherford.

Newtown—Bowers, Duffield, Walsh, Slade.

SUNDAY.

Domain—Chambers (chair), Bowers, Rutherford, Walsh.

Market-street—Chambers, James, Riley.

Newtown—Grant, Duffield, Walsh.

Balmain—Holland.

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## THE PICK AND SHOVEL BRIGADE.

Timmy's Tony, Caponi an' Johnny Morony an' Rosevitch, Slovak an' Burke. You'll find them the faces of all of the races that's down this back-breakin' work. Some people don't love us an' think they're above us—which may be considerable true. For we're the foundation that gives 'em their station—this everyday laborin' crew. They'd have lots of troubles a-ridin' in bubbles or makin' big money in trade. If WE wasn't sweatin' for what we are getting—the pick and shovel brigade.

The house you takes pride in, the roads you are ridin'—we handle the rock an' the muck. Whenever some one'll be plannin' a tunnel—it's us that must shovel, work luck! Whenever you goes in them buildin's imposin' that tries to make holes in the sky. Why—we are the fellows that dug out the cellar's that's under them buildin's so high. With toil we are branded—stoop shouldered, hard handed, we don't make a handsome parade. But though you would flout us, you can't do without us—the pick an' shovel brigade.

There's others comes after—that put up the rafter an' handles the rivets an' steel. But fore they begun it, our jobs we had done it so they could git in on the deal. They makes all the city look handsome an' pretty, but WE had to make 'em the room. We pulled down the hovels an' then with our shovels we followed the dynamite's boom. We wasn't no dreamers, or planners, or schemers, we worked for the cash that was paid. But where we had waded the other guys followed the pick an' shovel brigade.

—Canning Nation.

## S.F.A. Conference.

## The Agenda.

The following is the agenda for the 1912 Conference of the Socialist Federation of Australasia, to be held at Adelaide at Easter:

## Sydney Branch.

1. That all members of the S.F.A. shall have the right to speak at any branch meeting, but members shall only exercise voting power at the branches where they are enrolled. No member shall be enrolled for more than one branch.
2. That any person wishing to become a member of the S.F.A. shall first have read to him or her the principles of the S.F.A., which such person shall endorse before the secretary of any branch.
3. That a system of State Executives be organised in each State where more than one branch exists.
4. That, in accordance with International Socialist Congress resolution, the incoming S.F.A. executive be instructed to take steps to bring together the various unaffiliated Socialist bodies in Australasia, for the purpose of achieving complete Socialist unity.
5. That the S.F.A. accept the International Socialist Club's offer re paper and plant.
6. That THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST be the central organ of the S.F.A.
7. That the S.F.A. executive call for nominations for the selection of delegates to the International Socialist Congress, and that a fund be immediately opened for that purpose.
8. That Mrs. Dora B. Montefiore be appointed one of Australia's delegates to next International Congress, and that until after the next Congress Mrs. Montefiore be S.F.A. representative on the I.S. Bureau.
9. That executive issue printed application forms containing Principles and Policy of S.F.A.
10. That that portion of the Principles and Policy referring to members of S.F.A. not being members of any other political party be deleted from Principles and Policy and inserted under rules.
11. That in Rules and Constitution, for the words "affiliated organisation" and "organisation," the words "Branch" and "Branches" be substituted.
12. That Rule 13 be amended to read: "Branches" shall be self-governing, etc.
13. That Rule 14 be amended to read: "Branches of the S.F.A. may be formed by persons who accept the principles and policy of the Federation to the number of not less than six, on their making application to the National Executive and receiving endorsement."
14. That the annual Conference shall endorse the official papers of the Federation, and that on a charge being laid by one Branch that any paper has violated the principles and policy of the Federation, it shall be incumbent on the National Executive to take a vote of the branches as to whether the paper charged should be repudiated by the Federation.
15. That when questions such as the Referenda arise on which Conference has not pronounced, the Executive shall, after the National Executive members have been instructed by their respective Branches, declare the attitude of the S.F.A. in connection therewith, in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the Branches. Such pronouncement shall be loyally supported by the Party Branches and press, and shall be subject to review at the following Conference.

## Balmain Branch.

1. That the word "political" be expunged from the Constitution.

## Broken Hill Branch.

1. That the objective be altered to read as follows: The establishment of a co-operative commonwealth, founded on the collective ownership, controlled and operated by the working class, of the social and material means of life for the purpose of use and not for profit.
2. That the name of this organisation shall be the Australian Socialist Party.
3. That no member or Branch of the A.S.P. shall enter into any agreement, understanding, or alliance, temporary or permanent, with any other political party.
4. No member of the A.S.P. shall stand as or support other than the candidate of the A.S.P. for parliamentary or municipal office.
5. That Conference consider ways and means of financing Red Van, so as to ensure a start being made this year or early next year. Conference to decide in which State the van shall start and other details.
6. That Conference take immediate steps to appoint S.F.A. organiser—appointment by referendum of the S.F.A.
7. That audit of books, etc., take place at annual Conference. All books, vouchers, etc., to be produced for benefit of delegates. Auditors to be appointed by Conference.
8. That Conference instruct the National Executive to convene a special conference of all revolutionary Socialist bodies in Australia for the purpose of unity.
9. That the Party shall be composed of such Socialist bodies in Australia as accept the objects, statement of principles, and policy of the Party, and pay a capitation fee of sixpence per annum per member.
10. That headquarters of the Party shall be such place as the annual Conference may fix upon.
11. That the officers of the Party shall consist of the general secretary and two auditors. (Office of treasurer to be abolished.)
12. That the National Executive shall consist of the General Secretary and two representatives appointed by each branch upon the termination of the annual Conference, and such representatives shall sit, unless they resign or are recalled, until the subsequent annual Conference. The members of the National Executive shall report regularly to their organisations, and the Executive itself shall make a yearly report to Conference.
13. That the General Secretary and National Executive members resident at headquarters shall constitute an Administrative Council, and shall meet not less than once a week. Its decisions, other than upon urgent and formal matters, shall be referred to members of the National Executive for approval or otherwise, and all its decisions shall be subject to review. The Administrative Council shall make a quarterly report to affiliated organisations.
14. That Conference of affiliated bodies shall be held upon the 1st day of May each year, at a place determined upon by previous Conference. Business for Conference shall be called for by the Administrative Council not later than the last day in February in each year, and must be in the hands of Council not later than last day of March, and furnished to affiliated organisations within a fortnight from that date. The Conference shall consist of General Secretary and delegates from each affiliated body upon the following basis: 50 or under, 1 delegate; 50 to 100, 2 delegates; 250, 3 delegates; over 250, 4 delegates. Decisions of Conference shall be final, but any decision may be challenged within 6 weeks by an affiliated organisation, and a referendum of all the members of the Party demanded. All decisions shall remain in force until amended or rescinded by notice to Annual Conference.
15. That upon a referendum being demanded, the Administrative Council shall supply the requisite papers to each organisation within one month, and that each Branch be allowed to count its own ballot prior to forwarding papers to Administrative Council, within one month from date of ballot. The Council to notify result of ballot within one week from receipt of papers.
16. That special Conference shall be convened upon requisition to the National Executive by two affiliated organisations.
17. That the word "trades" be eliminated in Rule 10.

## Adelaide Branch.

1. That in section 5, "As to political action," the words "vote for" be deleted.
2. That in section 6, the following be inserted after "Unionism": "And we favor the preamble and policy of the I.W.W., as adopted by the Trautmann-St. John section."
3. That Rule 10, "Membership," clause 2, be altered to read: "Applicants for membership in any affiliated organization shall endorse the principles and policy of the S.F.A. and be subject to the approval of a general meeting of the organization concerned."
4. That in Rule 14, "Branches," the words, "by a trade union which endorses the principles and policy of the Federation," be deleted.

## S.F.A. Constitution and Rules.

## NAME.

1. The name of the organisation shall be the Socialist Federation of Australasia.

## HOW CONSTITUTED.

2. The Federation shall be composed of such Socialist bodies in Australasia and New Zealand as accept the objects, statement of principles, and policy of the Federation, and pay a capitation fee of sixpence per financial member per annum.

## HEADQUARTERS.

3. The headquarters of the Federation shall be such place as the Annual Conference may fix upon.

## OFFICERS.

4. The officers of the Federation shall consist of a General Secretary, General Treasurer, and two Auditors, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual Conference.

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

5. The National Executive shall consist of the General Secretary, General Treasurer, and two representatives appointed by each affiliated organization upon the termination of the Annual Conference, and such representatives shall sit (unless they resign or are recalled) until the subsequent Annual Conference. The members of the National Executive shall report regularly to their organisation, and the Executive itself shall make a yearly report to the Conference.

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL.

6. The General Secretary, General Treasurer, and National Executive members resident at headquarters shall constitute an Administrative Council, and shall meet not less than once a week. Its decisions—other than upon urgent and formal matters—shall be referred to the members of the National Executive for approval or otherwise, and all its decisions shall be subject to review. The Administrative Council shall make a quarterly report to affiliated organizations.

No pamphlet, post-card, or other publication shall be issued by the Administrative Council unless first submitted to and approved by the National Executive.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

7. A Conference of affiliated bodies shall be held in the month of June in each year, at a place determined upon by previous Conference. Business for Conference shall be called for by the Administrative Council in March of each year, and must be in the hands of the Council not later than the last day of April, and furnished to affiliated organizations within a fortnight from that date. The Conference shall consist of General Secretary, General Treasurer (neither of whom shall be eligible to vote), and Delegates from each affiliated organization upon the following basis: Up to 100 members, 1 delegate; over 100 and up to 250 members, 2 delegates; over 250 members, 3 delegates. Decisions of Conference shall be final, but any decision of Conference may be challenged within six weeks by an affiliated organization, and a referendum of the membership of the Federation demanded. All decisions shall remain in force until amended or rescinded upon notice to Annual Conference.

## REFERENDUM.

8. Upon a referendum being demanded, the Administrative Council shall supply the requisite papers to each organisation within one month from the application, and the organisation shall proceed to take the votes within one month of receipt of papers, returning the ballot papers, duly sealed, for counting to the Council.

## SPECIAL CONFERENCE.

9. Special Conference may be convened upon requisition at the discretion of the National Executive.

Two affiliated organisations may request the Administrative Council to call a special Conference on urgent business at any time. The Administrative Council shall submit the proposal to the members of the National Executive, who shall decide whether the business justifies the calling of the same.

## MEMBERSHIP.

10. A member shall belong to the organisation geographically nearest to him in the same State, but membership cards shall be interchangeable, with minimum subscription of 1s per month for males and 6d per month for females; applicants for membership in any affiliated organisation shall sign a Declaration endorsing the principles and policy of the S.F.A. No member shall belong to any other political organisation, but this provision shall not debar membership for purely industrial purposes in trades unions which are primarily industrial, and only secondarily political.

Any member proved to have acted contrary to the principles and policy of the S.F.A. shall be expelled from the branch of which he or she is a member.

## DUES.

11. Affiliated organisations shall pay at the rate of sixpence per head per annum to headquarters for maintenance and as affiliation with the International Socialist Bureau.

## BRANCHES.

12. Affiliated organisations shall be considered branches of the Federation, but shall be self-governing within the provisions of S.F.A. constitution and rules, and the principles and policy. Branches of the S.F.A. may be formed by a trade union which endorses the principles and policy of the Federation, and by not less than six persons making application to the National Executive, and receiving endorsement.

## NEWSPAPERS.

13. The newspapers of affiliated bodies shall be recognised as official organs of the Federation, and shall adhere strictly to the principles and policy of the Federation.

## The Socialist Federation of Australasia.

## Principles and Policy.

1. Objective. The socialisation of the means of production, distribution, and exchange.

## 2. Statement of Principles.

The present form of Society rests on private ownership of the land and the machinery (tools) of production.

The owners of most of the land the machinery of production constitute what is economically known as the capitalist class. Hence the use of the term, "The capitalist form of society."

This form of ownership divides society in all countries into two distinct and opposing classes—the capitalist class and the working class.

The working class produces all the wealth that sustains society, while it is held in complete economic and industrial subjection to the capitalist class, which lives on the wealth produced by the working class.

To enable the working class to wage the class war, it must be fully conscious of the wrongs inflicted upon the workers by the capitalist class; and it must organise industrially to voice its wrongs and assert its claims. Then it will be prepared for political action to overthrow the usurping class and to abolish classes for ever.

The deaths by starvation, the millions of unemployed, the excessive toil for bare subsistence, the poverty, crime, and consequent misery, are all the direct outcome of domination by the ruling class. That class must go.

The Socialist Federation of Australasia demands common ownership of all agencies of wealth production by the people themselves and the control of all industrial affairs on the basis of social equality.

The workers of Australia must, without delay, take up their position along with the organised, class-conscious workers of all other countries. There is no escape from the thrall of capitalism short of its complete overthrow, and this can only be achieved by the class-conscious industrial and political strength of the working class.

The Socialist Federation of Australasia, therefore, calls upon all workers to forthwith identify themselves with the existing Socialist organisations in their respective States, and to work unceasingly for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system, and for the emancipation of their class from wage slavery.

## 3. Guiding Rule.

The Socialist Federation of Australasia shall always and everywhere, until the present system is abolished, make the answer to this question its guiding rule of conduct:—Will the proposal advance the interests of the working class and aid the workers in their class struggle against capitalism? If it will, the Socialist Federation is for it; if it will not, the Socialist Federation is absolutely opposed to it.

## 4. As to Palliatives.

Whereas the advocacy of political palliatives (so-called) tends to obscure the working class objective of emancipation from wage slavery, and thus causes the workers to extend time and effort to little purpose; and

Whereas political palliatives (so-called) as adopted by legislatures have rarely proved efficacious, and have usually created the need for further legislative restrictions, and therefore kept working class action circular instead of straight; and

Whereas political palliatives even if desirable are best obtained by educating and organising for basic ends, inasmuch as sops have ever been conceded when something more fundamental is the demand; be it

Resolved that the Socialist Federation of Australasia declares against a programme of palliatives, and urges the workers to concentrate their energies upon abolishing capitalism by perfecting their industrial organisations and only using the ballot for Socialist propaganda.

## 5. As to Political Action.

No member of the Federation shall stand as, vote for, or support other than a Revolutionary Socialist, for parliamentary or municipal office.

Socialist candidates shall be selected by the organisations concerned, and before running be endorsed by the national executive, to which the candidate shall pledge himself to advocate and support the principles and policy of the S.F.A. Before entering on a campaign a candidate shall hand to his organization a written resignation, to be used in the event of him serving from the Socialist party.

A candidate must have been for twelve months a member of an organization affiliated with the International Socialist Bureau.

That for the purposes of the foregoing resolution, a Revolutionary Socialist Party shall be any party which bases its propaganda on a recognition of the class struggle; declares for the Socialist Republic—i.e., the socialisation of the means of production, distribution, and exchange; and has no program of palliatives.

## 6. As to Unionism.

The Federation declares for Industrial Unionism. The Federation affirms its pronounced and mature conviction that Compulsory Arbitration, Wages Boards, the New Protection, and the like, as manifested in slightly-differing enactments in the Australian States and New Zealand, have not proved advantageous to the working class.

## 7. As to Compensation.

The Federation vehemently protests against the working class being misled by the Labor or other parties into the belief that it is possible to socialize the instruments of production by a gigantic scheme of "buying out," or compensation to the possessing class, and warns the workers against endorsing such a utopian, immoral, and impracticable plan.

## 8. As to Militarism.

The S.F.A. declares itself uncompromisingly hostile to all forms of militarism, recognising that whilst the present class State exists the armed forces will be used to buttress up capitalism, and to hold down the workers. The Federation further recognises that all the energies of the working class can be most profitably utilised in building up their industrial and political organizations, which shall finally render war impossible, and which organizations by international affiliation and alliances between the working classes of all nations are at present the chief guarantee of the peace of the world.

## 9. As to Sunday Schools.

In declaring for the need of Socialist Sunday Schools, the S.F.A. urges that same be established whenever and wherever circumstances permit.

## 10. As to Historical Materialism.

The S.F.A. pledges itself to materialistic conception of history, which asserts that the transition from one system of society to another, as in the past, from primitive communism to chattel slavery, from chattel slavery to feudalism, and from feudalism to the present Capitalist State, has been the result of new and improved methods of production, and the time has now arrived when the present scientific tools of production, by their being socially owned, make possible the establishing of the Socialist Republic.